AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-15 (canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical formulation ~~for peroral single daily application~~, comprising

(a) clarithromycin or a derivative thereof; ~~and~~

(b) ~~a mixture of~~ a fatty ~~and hydrophilic~~ component, wherein the fatty component comprises about 10-36 weight percent of the formulation, wherein said fatty component is behenic acid, glycerol behenate or a combination thereof; and ~~the~~

(c) hydrophilic component ~~comprises~~ comprising about 5-18 weight percent of the formulation, ~~;~~ wherein ~~the formulation is a controlled release formulation;~~

~~and wherein the~~ said hydrophilic component is xanthan gum, guar gum, acacia, or any combination ~~selected from the group consisting of alkyl-substituted cellulose ethers, polysaccharides, adsorbants and mixtures~~ thereof.

17. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 16, further comprising a surfactant.

18. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 16, further comprising a pH modulator.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 16, wherein the hydrophilic component comprises hydroxypropyl methylcellulose of low viscosity.

21. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim ~~19~~ 20, wherein the hydroxypropyl methylcellulose has a viscosity of about 15 cP.

22. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 17, wherein the surfactant comprises sodium docusate.

23. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 18, wherein the pH modulator comprises a phosphate buffer.

24. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 16, characterized in that it is in the form of a tablet.

25. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 24, characterized in that the tablet is coated.

26. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 24, characterized in that on the tablet an acid-resistant coating is applied.

27. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical formulation ~~for peroral single daily application~~, comprising

(a) clarithromycin or a derivative thereof; ~~and~~

(b) ~~a mixture of~~ a fatty ~~and a hydrophilic~~ component, wherein the fatty component is behenic acid, glycerol behenate or a combination thereof, and comprises about 10-36 weight percent of the formulation, wherein the hydrophilic component comprises about 5-18 weight percent of the formulation, which comprises forming a homogeneous mixture thereof and direct compressing said mixture into tablet form without use of solvents; ~~wherein the formulation is a controlled release formulation~~; and

(c) ~~wherein the~~ said hydrophilic component is xanthan gum, guar gum, acacia, or any combination ~~selected from the group consisting of alkyl-substituted cellulose ethers, polysaccharides, adsorbants and mixtures~~ thereof.

28. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 27 comprising sieving the homogeneous mixture prior to compressing the mixture into tablet form.

29. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 24, wherein the fatty component is a sustained released component that provides sustained release of the clarithromycin or clarithromycin derivative, and wherein the hydrophilic component forms a viscous layer in an aqueous medium through which the clarithromycin or clarithromycin derivative diffuses upon solubilization, and wherein the fatty component and the hydrophilic component are in a weight ratio~~n~~ to each other between about 2.1 and 10:1, thereby effective to provide controlled release of the clarithromycin or clarithromycin derivative over about a twenty-four hour period.

30. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 29, wherein the fatty component is selected from the group consisting of fatty

components consisting of triglycerides of higher saturated fatty acids, hydrogenated oils and mixtures thereof.

Claims 31-33 (canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 33, wherein the fatty component is glyceryl behenate, and wherein the hydrophilic component is hydroxypropyl methylcellulose.

35. (New) A pharmaceutical formulation, comprising:

(a) clarithromycin or a derivative thereof;

(b) 10-36 weight percent glyceryl behenate; and

(c) 5-18 weight percent, a hydroxypropyl methyl-cellulose.

36. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 35, further comprising a surfactant.

37. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 35, further comprising a pH modulator.

38. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 35, wherein the hydrophilic component comprises hydroxypropyl methylcellulose of low viscosity.

39. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 38, wherein the hydroxypropyl methylcellulose has a viscosity of about 15 cP.

40. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 36, wherein the surfactant comprises sodium docusate.

41. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 37, wherein the pH modulator comprises a phosphate buffer.

42. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 35, characterized in that it is in the form of a tablet.

43. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 42, characterized in that the tablet is coated.

44. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 42, characterized in that on the tablet an acid-resistant coating is applied.

45. (New) A pharmaceutical formulation, comprising:

(a) clarithromycin or a derivative thereof;

b) a fatty component comprising about 10-36 weight percent of the formulation, wherein said fatty component is behenic acid, glyceryl behenate or a combination thereof; and

(c) wherein the hydrophilic component is selected from the group consisting of alkyl-substituted cellulose ethers, xanthan gum, guar gum, acacia, adsorbants and mixtures thereof.

46. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 45, further comprising a surfactant.

47. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 45, further comprising a pH modulator.

48. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 46, wherein the surfactant comprises sodium docusate.

49. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 47, wherein the pH modulator comprises a phosphate buffer.

50. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 45, characterized in that it is in the form of a tablet.

51. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 50, characterized in that the tablet is coated.

52. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 50, characterized in that on the tablet an acid-resistant coating is applied.

53. (New) A pharmaceutical formulation, comprising:

(a) clarithromycin or a derivative thereof, of about 43 weight percent;

(b) a fatty component about 10-36 weight percent of the formulation; and

(c) a hydrophilic component comprising about 5-18 weight percent of the formulation, wherein said hydrophilic component is xanthan gum, guar gum, acacia, or any combination thereof.

54. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 53, further comprising a surfactant.

55. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 53, further comprising a pH modulator.

56. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 54, wherein the surfactant comprises sodium docusate.

57. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 55, wherein the pH modulator comprises a phosphate buffer.

58. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 53, characterized in that it is in the form of a tablet.

59. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 58, characterized in that the tablet is coated.

60. (New) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 58, characterized in that on the tablet an acid-resistant coating is applied.